

California DMV permit practice test 1

From the California Driver's Handbook (DL 600). Free at permitpracticetestdmv.com/california/

25 questions. Circle one answer for each. Answer key on the last page. Name: _____ Score: _____ / 25

1. What does a flashing red traffic light mean?

- A. Slow down and proceed with caution without stopping
- B. Stop, then go when it is safe
- C. The light is about to turn green
- D. Stop and wait for the light to turn green

2. You are stopped at a red arrow pointing right. What may you do?

- A. Turn right after a complete stop if no one is coming
- B. Turn right if there is no NO TURN ON RED sign
- C. Remain stopped until a green light or green arrow appears

3. What should you do when you see a solid yellow traffic light?

- A. Continue at the same speed because yellow means go
- B. Stop if you can do so safely; otherwise cross the intersection cautiously
- C. Speed up to get through the intersection before it turns red
- D. Stop immediately, even if you are very close to the intersection

4. A flashing yellow traffic signal means:

- A. Pedestrians have a WALK signal
- B. Slow down and proceed with caution; you do not need to stop
- C. Stop and yield to all traffic
- D. The signal is broken; treat it as a four-way stop

5. What does a flashing yellow arrow mean?

- A. You have a protected turn; oncoming traffic is stopped
- B. You may turn after yielding to oncoming traffic; the turn is not protected
- C. The protected turn period is about to begin
- D. You must stop and wait for a green arrow

6. A solid yellow arrow means:

- A. You may turn only after stopping
- B. The protected turning time is ending
- C. U-turns are prohibited
- D. Oncoming traffic has a red light for the next minute

7. The light is green, but the intersection ahead is backed up with cars. You should:

- A. Honk to clear the intersection
- B. Enter partway and wait in the crosswalk
- C. Wait until you can get completely across before entering
- D. Enter the intersection because you have the green light

8. A green arrow pointing left means:

- A. You may make a protected left turn; oncoming vehicles are stopped by a red light
- B. Left turns are permitted only after a full stop
- C. You may turn left after yielding to oncoming traffic
- D. You must turn left

9. The traffic lights at an intersection are not working. What should you do?

- A. Slow down and treat it like a flashing yellow light
- B. Stop as if there were STOP signs in all directions, then proceed when safe
- C. Yield only to vehicles on your left
- D. Proceed at normal speed if no police officer is present

10. A pedestrian starts crossing on a flashing DON'T WALK signal in front of you. What must you do?

- A. Proceed because the pedestrian should not have started
- B. Drive around the pedestrian
- C. Honk to warn the pedestrian
- D. Yield to the pedestrian

11. At an intersection with no pedestrian signals, pedestrians should:

- A. Cross diagonally
- B. Cross only on a flashing yellow light
- C. Always wait for a gap in traffic regardless of the lights
- D. Obey the vehicle traffic signals

12. What does a single solid yellow line in the center of a two-way road tell you?

- A. Passing is permitted from either side
- B. It is a carpool lane boundary
- C. It marks the center of a two-way road; do not pass if it is on your side and you have only one lane in your direction
- D. It separates lanes going the same direction

13. When may you cross a single set of double solid yellow lines?

- A. To turn left into or out of a driveway or private road, or to make a U-turn
- B. To pass a slow vehicle
- C. Never, under any circumstances
- D. Whenever there is no oncoming traffic

14. Two sets of solid double yellow lines spaced two or more feet apart should be treated as:

- A. A passing zone
- B. A center left turn lane
- C. A barrier you may not drive on or turn across except at designated openings
- D. A bicycle lane

15. A broken yellow line next to your lane means:

- A. The lane is ending
- B. You must not pass
- C. Only carpools may cross
- D. You may pass if it is safe

16. Double solid white lines separating a regular lane from a carpool (HOV) lane mean:

- A. They mark the edge of the shoulder
- B. Carpools may cross them, but other vehicles may not
- C. You may cross them if you signal
- D. Never change lanes over them; wait for a single broken white line

17. Broken white lines separate:

- A. Traffic lanes on roads with two or more lanes going the same direction
- B. Traffic moving in opposite directions
- C. Bicycle lanes from parking
- D. The road from the shoulder

18. You are driving in a freeway lane marked with large broken lines. This usually means:

- A. Be prepared to exit or for the lane to end
- B. You are in the passing lane
- C. Trucks are not allowed in the lane
- D. The lane is a carpool lane

19. A row of solid white triangles painted across your lane, pointing toward you, shows:

- A. A pedestrian-only zone
- B. A speed bump
- C. Where to yield or stop
- D. The start of a bike lane

20. A limit line is:

- A. A painted line around a parking space
- B. The line marking the speed limit zone
- C. A wide white line showing where to stop before an intersection or crosswalk
- D. A yellow line at the edge of the road

21. There is no limit line and no crosswalk at a STOP sign. Where should you stop?

- A. Even with the stop sign
- B. Ten feet past the corner
- C. Before you enter the intersection
- D. In the middle of the intersection to see better

22. School crosswalks may be marked with what color lines?

- A. Green
- B. Yellow
- C. Red
- D. Blue

23. How are safety zones for people waiting for buses or streetcars marked?

- A. With red painted pavement
- B. With solid yellow curbs
- C. With orange cones
- D. With raised buttons or markers and dotted white lines

24. How is a carpool (HOV) lane marked on the road surface?

- A. With green paint
- B. With a large letter H
- C. With a bicycle symbol
- D. With a diamond symbol and the words Carpool Lane

25. How is a center left turn lane marked?

- A. Broken white lines on both sides
- B. Two solid yellow lines on both sides
- C. A solid outer line and a broken inner line on each side
- D. A single solid white line

Answer key: California practice test 1

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1. B: Stop, then go when it is safe

A flashing red light is treated like a STOP sign: come to a full stop, then proceed when it is safe. (Traffic Signals: Flashing Red Light, page 33)

2. C: Remain stopped until a green light or green arrow appears

A red arrow means stop and do not turn. You must wait until a green signal or green arrow appears. (Traffic Signals: Red Arrow, page 33)

3. B: Stop if you can do so safely; otherwise cross the intersection cautiously

A solid yellow light warns that the signal is about to turn red. Stop if you can do so safely; if you can't, cross with caution. (Traffic Signals: Solid Yellow Light, page 33)

4. B: Slow down and proceed with caution; you do not need to stop

A flashing yellow light is a warning to proceed with caution. Slow down and be alert, but you are not required to stop. (Traffic Signals: Flashing Yellow Light, page 34)

5. B: You may turn after yielding to oncoming traffic; the turn is not protected

With a flashing yellow arrow you may turn, but oncoming traffic is not stopped. Yield to oncoming traffic and proceed with caution. (Traffic Signals: Flashing Yellow Arrow, page 34)

6. B: The protected turning time is ending

A yellow arrow means the protected turn is about to end. If you cannot stop safely or are already in the intersection, complete the turn cautiously. (Traffic Signals: Yellow Arrow, page 33)

7. C: Wait until you can get completely across before entering

Do not enter an intersection if you cannot get completely across before the light turns red. Blocking an intersection is against the law. (Traffic Signals: Solid Green Light, page 34)

8. A: You may make a protected left turn; oncoming vehicles are stopped by a red light

A green arrow allows a protected turn in the direction of the arrow. Oncoming traffic is stopped by a red light. (Traffic Signals: Green Arrow, page 34)

9. B: Stop as if there were STOP signs in all directions, then proceed when safe

When a traffic light is not working, treat the intersection as an all-way stop. Stop, then proceed cautiously when it is safe. (Traffic Light Not Working, page 34)

10. D: Yield to the pedestrian

Drivers must yield to pedestrians even if the DON'T WALK light is flashing. (Pedestrian Signals or Signs: Flashing DON'T WALK, page 35)

11. D: Obey the vehicle traffic signals

If there are no pedestrian signals, pedestrians obey the vehicle traffic signals. (Pedestrian Signals or Signs: No Pedestrian Signals, page 35)

12. C: It marks the center of a two-way road; do not pass if it is on your side and you have only one lane in your direction

A single solid yellow line marks the center of a road with two-way traffic. Do not pass if there is only one lane going your way and the solid line is on your side. (Lane Markings: Single Solid Yellow Line, page 13)

13. A: To turn left into or out of a driveway or private road, or to make a U-turn

You may turn left across a single set of double yellow lines to enter or exit a driveway or private road or to make a U-turn. (Lane Markings: Double Solid Yellow Lines, page 13)

14. C: A barrier you may not drive on or turn across except at designated openings

Two sets of double yellow lines two or more feet apart are a barrier. Do not drive over it or turn left or make a U-turn across it except at designated openings. (Lane Markings: Double Solid Yellow Lines, page 13)

15. D: You may pass if it is safe

A broken yellow line next to your driving lane means you may pass, but only when it is safe. (Lane Markings: Broken Yellow Line, page 13)

16. D: Never change lanes over them; wait for a single broken white line

Double solid white lines are a lane barrier. Never change lanes over them; wait until you see a single broken white line. (Lane Markings: Double Solid White Lines, page 14)

17. A: Traffic lanes on roads with two or more lanes going the same direction

Broken white lines separate traffic lanes on roads with two or more lanes in the same direction. (Lane Markings: Broken White Lines, page 14)

18. A: Be prepared to exit or for the lane to end

Ending freeway and street lanes are usually marked with large broken lines. Be prepared to exit or for the lane to end, and look for a sign telling you to exit or merge. (End of Lane Markings, page 14)

19. C: Where to yield or stop

A yield line is a row of solid white triangles that point toward approaching vehicles and show where to yield or stop. (Yield Line, page 14)

20. C: A wide white line showing where to stop before an intersection or crosswalk

A limit line is a wide white line that shows drivers where to stop before an intersection or crosswalk. (Turns: Right Turns, page 18)

21. C: Before you enter the intersection

If there is no limit line or crosswalk, stop before entering the intersection. (Signs: STOP Sign, page 35)

22. B: Yellow

Crosswalks are often marked with white lines, and school crossings may have yellow crosswalk lines. (Crosswalks, page 41)

23. D: With raised buttons or markers and dotted white lines

Safety zones are marked by raised buttons or markers on the road and dotted white lines. Never drive through a safety zone. (Buses, Streetcars, Trolleys, page 43)

24. D: With a diamond symbol and the words Carpool Lane

HOV lanes are marked with a diamond symbol and the words Carpool Lane. (Types of Lanes: Carpool/High-Occupancy Vehicle (HOV) Lanes, page 16)

25. C: A solid outer line and a broken inner line on each side

A center left turn lane is marked on both sides by two painted lines: the inner line is broken and the outer line is solid. (Types of Lanes: Center Left Turn Lanes, page 16)